

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Prior to entry of this response, claims 1-7 were pending in the application, of which claim 1 is independent. In the Office Action dated November 1, 2004, claims 1, 2, and 4-7 were rejected as anticipated by Schaaff (U.S. Patent No. 2,312,284) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), and claims 1-7 were rejected as obvious over Schaaff in view of Yamagishi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,530,132). Following this response, claims 1 and 3-6 remain in this application, as claims 2 and 7 have been canceled. Applicants have amended independent claim 1.

Claim 1 as amended recites that "a flange is provided by bending a top end of each side wall inwardly, and a down-grade slope, which is inclined from a leading end of a shoulder opening side of the flange toward a shoulder opening, is provided between the flange and the side wall." In contrast, none of the sliders disclosed in Schaaff or Yamagishi et al. have any portion corresponding to the flange of claim 1, the flange being "provided by bending a top end of each side wall inwardly." Because the cited references do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claim 1. Applicants also submit that the remaining claims should be allowed because of their dependency on patentable claim 1.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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